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Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 01721 060244Z

60
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
---------- 012267
Z 060234Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 4688

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 1721

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TW
SUBJECT: DEATH OF PRESIDENT CHIANG: FORMIN HOPES FOR USG
REASSURANCES

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB

1. FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN CHANG-HUAN, APPREHENSIVE
ABOUT POSSIBLE DESTABILIZING IMPACT HERE AND ELSEWHERE
OF NEWS OF PRESIDENT CHIANG'S DEATH COMING ON
TOP OF DISASTERS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, DISCUSSED
WITH ME THIS MORNING GREAT BENEFIT WHICH WOULD
BE DERIVED FROM SOME REASSURING GESTURE FROM
PRESIDENT FORD. HE REFERRED TO WHAT PRESIDENT ALREADY SAID
RECENTLY ABOUT OUR STANDING BY OUR FRIENDS AND OUR COMMIT-
MENTS AND FELT THAT SOME SUCH SPECIFIC EXPRESSION OF
SOLIDARITY WITH ROC WOULD GO A LONG WAY TO OFFSET WHAT MAY BE
DEVELOPING MALIAISE. HE EMPHASIZED HE WAS PUTTING THIS
FORWARD PERSONALLY AND WAS NOT ASKING FOR ANYTHING NEW
OR DIFFERENT, BUT SIMPLY A REASSURING WORD FROM THE CLOSEST
FRIEND AT A DELICATE TIME.

2. OCCURS TO ME THAT SUCH A MESSAGE MIGHT BE INCORPORATED
IN PRESIDENT'S CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO C.K. YEN
WHO IS BEING SWORN IN THIS MORNING AS PRESIDENT.

3. ALTHOUGH MINISTER SHEN WAS NOT SPECIFIC ON THIS SCORE
HE ALSO WAS CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITY, ALBEIT
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REMOTE THAT THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH MAY BE SEEN BY NATIONS

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NOT FRIENDLY TO ROC AS THE MOMENT TO MAKE SOME HOSTILE
MOVE; A REASSURING STATEMENT OF THE U.S. POSITION WOULD ALSO
SERVE TO DETER ANY SUCH MISCALCULATION. UNGER

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NNN

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Draft Date: 06 APR 1975
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: PFOR, OGEN, TW, (CHIANG KAI-SHEK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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